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FEB 18 2010

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK  
OFFICE**

In re Application of George E. Fox, )  
Richard C. Willson III and Zhengdong Zhang )  
Serial No.:10/057,270 ) Examiner Jason Sims  
 ) 571 272 7540  
Filed: 26 Jan 2002 ) Group 1631  
For: ... Methods for Determining the Genetic )  
Affinity of Microorganisms and Viruses )  
Priority: 26 Jan 2001, USSN 60/254,403 )  
Attorney Docket: 010AUS )  
USPTO Customer Number: 26830 )  
Response Due: 24 February 2010 )

Commissioner for Patents  
Box 1450 Group 1631  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Office Action mailed 24 November 2009 by Examiner Sims, consideration of the following Supplemental Amendments and Remarks is solicited.

The undersigned Attorney certifies that this Amendment is being filed in the USPTO on **18 February 2010** by fax to 1571 273 8300.

No Additional fee is believed due as the number of independent claims (2) and of dependent claims (19) are unchanged.

The Examiner is thanked for the helpful 24 November 2009 advisory action and its comment that the amendments when entered would overcome the rejections under 35 USC 101.

**The favor of a telephone interview is requested for 2:30pm on Monday March 1, 2010. If that is not convenient, the Examiner is requested to suggest another date, preferably March 3 or 4, 2010.** The claims and the arguments herein would